

BUSINESS & LABOREXHIBIT NO. 3
DATE 1-25-11
BILL NO. SB 29

From: heather mcdougall <heatheramcdougall@yahoo.com>
Subject: **SB 29 - Server Training**
Date: January 22, 2011 1:34:46 PM MST
To: tropila@mt.net

Senator Tropila-

I help organize the Troy Fourth of July event. It draws approximately 7,000 (10,000 when the Fourth falls on a weekend) into our town consisting of 953 residents. It is the largest single day event in Lincoln County and positively impacts our businesses for up to two weeks. People plan class reunions, family reunions and weddings around the Fourth.

Over the course of the event, volunteers spend over 563 hours helping with set up, clean up, the cook shack, the corn booth, the children's games, the basketball tournament, the tug-of-war, the fireworks display, etc. As you can see, we tap out the Troy volunteer base for this Celebration.

I am in charge of recruiting volunteers for the Beer Booth, Wine Table, I.D. station and ticket sales. From noon until midnight, there are approximately 58 volunteers needed. I am very concerned about required server training for volunteer events. I am being told by Maggie Anderson of the Montana Change Project that she would reduce her server training course from 4 hours to 2 hours. I do not foresee my evening shift volunteers being willing to take a server training course of 2 hours when the shift is only 2 hours. In addition, there are times that I cannot find a volunteer for a certain time, so I ask someone I see on the day of the event to volunteer, thus leaving no time for server training.

Maggie Anderson is trying to tie the police chief/sheriff's signature of the alcohol permit to server training. She wants me to submit a list of the volunteers and if they are not trained, the police chief/sheriff will not sign the next year's alcohol permit. We made \$21,000 gross on the Celebration. \$10,000 of our gross came from the beer booth/wine table. Our net profit from the beer booth/wine table was \$6,500. We spend \$8,000 on fireworks, \$1,500 on the band, \$2,000 on insurance, \$1,500 on the port-a-potties and cleared \$1,112 last year. We do not charge an admission. You can see that the Celebration will change drastically if there are no beer or wine sales.

I am also concerned that the grants for server training could be eliminated. This may require people to pay for their training and/or travel to Kalispell (over 100 miles) to satisfy the course requirements. If this becomes the case, there will be no volunteers to help.

If you have any questions, please call me at (406) 295-9993 or (406) 295-4993. I appreciate your time in reading my concerns and speaking to me on the phone.

Sincerely,
Heather McDougall